EASY TECHNOLOGY TOOLS FOR ENGAGING FIRST YEAR STUDENTS IN INFORMATION LITERACY

Atlanta University Center
Robert W. Woodruff Library

Bernetta Doane, Reference & Instruction Librarian
Connelly Library, LaSalle University
doane@lasalle.edu

Rosaline Odom, Head of Information & Research Services
Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library
rodom@auctr.edu

LASALLE UNIVERSITY

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INTRODUCTION

Images and visual presentations can be used to enhance student learning outcomes. Let's explore how the visual presentation tools Wordle™ and VocabGrabber ™ can be used to engagingly present information literacy concepts to students; and how Clickers can be used to informally establish students' baseline knowledge or formally assess student learning outcomes.

ACRL Information Literacy Standard Two

The information literate student accesses need information effectively and efficiently.

Performance Indicator Two

The information literate student constructs and implements effectively-designed search strategies.

EXPLORING KEYWORDS

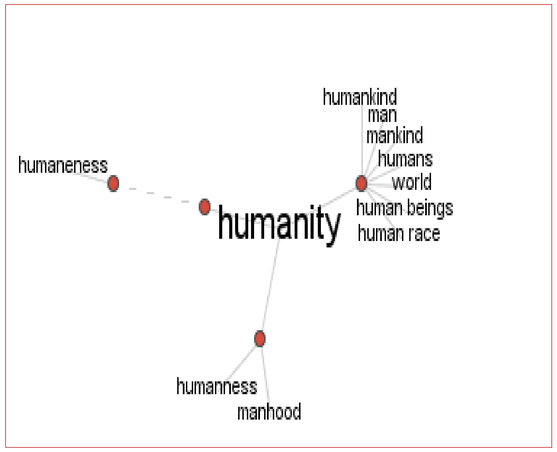
Wordle ™

Wordle is a fun open source tool that can be used to generate "word clouds" from text you either type or cut and paste onto the Wordle webpage. Word clouds generated during class brainstorming sessions can provide valuable insight into how students assimilate key concepts related to assigned topics.

Source: scienceblogs.com

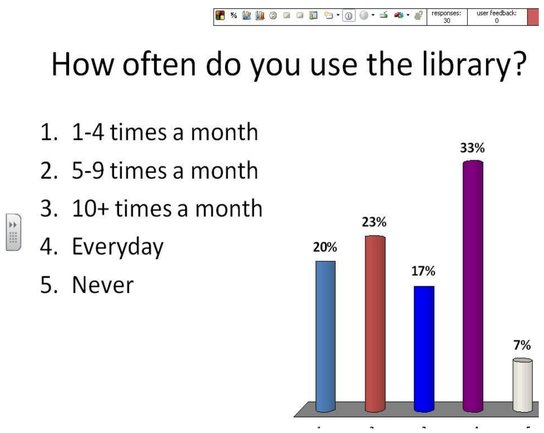
VISUALTHESAURUS VocabGrabber™

VocabGrabber is a fee-based visual thesaurus that functions as an interactive dictionary and thesaurus to create word maps. VocabGrabber analyzes any text to generate lists of the most useful vocabulary words and visually display how those words are used in context. Students will come to understand language in a powerful new way.



Concept Map for Humanity

USING CLICKERS



Get Instant Feedback with Clickers

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